DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

"Caring for ALL
Animals"

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> > The Race is On! Animal Care and Control Competes in the 2012 ASPCA Rachel Ray \$100K Challenge!

San Bernardino: Beginning today through October 31st, 2012, San Bernardino County Animal Care and Control (ACC) Homeward Bound Project Adopt will compete in the third annual American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) Rachel Ray \$100K Challenge, with the potential to earn up to \$100,000 in grant funding to help save the lives of abandoned and stray pets within the County. ACC's goal by participating in the 100K challenge is to place 300 more animals in permanent homes during the challenge timeframe.

The 2012 ASPCA Rachel Ray \$100K Challenge is a nationwide, annual competition for animal shelters and their communities to get more animals adopted or returned to their owners than in previous years. San Bernardino County ACC earned its way into the final heat by competing with other shelters in an online voting competition. ACC garnered enough online votes to place eighth out of the top 50 competing animal agencies across the country. All 50 shelters will compete for a chance at more than \$500,000 in grant funding, including a grand prize of \$100,000. Any and all money awarded to San Bernardino County ACC Homeward Bound Project Adopt will be used to provide subsidized care and spay/neuter services to animals received by our non-profit rescue partners.

"The ASPCA Rachael Ray \$100K Challenge is a great motivator for our team, community, rescue group partners, residents and businesses of the County of San Bernardino to get involved," said Brian Cronin, Division Chief of Animal Care and Control. "Working together, we will save hundreds of animals and improve the lives of new adopting families, and we'll have a shot at a \$100,000

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grant, which will be used to connect hundreds of beautiful, fun loving cats and dogs in our shelters with the right families."

County residents and our community partners can help by adopting more spayed/neutered dogs and cats from shelters now, especially during August-October 2012, and in the future. In addition, you can visit and "Like" the "Homeward Bound Project Adopt Facebook Page" to get updates and be more involved with our efforts and progress. The more we are engaged as a community, the more our shelters will receive financial help to give our non-profit rescue partners to care for animals.

Participating in the challenge is part of the County's effort to achieve the Countywide Vision identified by County residents and adopted by the County and virtually all County cities and towns. More information on the Vision can be found at www.sbcounty.gov/vision.

For more information about the ASPCA Rachel Ray \$100K Challenge, please call the San Bernardino County Animal Care and Control Program toll free at 1(800) 472-5609 or visit www.sbcounty.gov/acc.

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